

BEYOND HABITAT

TOOLS FOR A BIODIVERSE COMMUNITY

FEATURING

Dr. Valentine Schafer, Grant Pearsell, and Briony Penn

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2010 · 1:00–4:30PM

LOCATION: Segal Graduate School of Business, Event Room 1200

The world is urbanizing at an accelerated rate, with cities consuming 75% of the world's resources. A result of this rapid shift is the irreparable loss of biodiversity. Local governments can play a crucial role in the conservation and promotion of global biodiversity; but where to start? This forum explores some of the practical and legislative tools available to municipal leaders for conserving biodiversity and also presents several leadership stories for successful biodiversity management.

Join us in marking with the United Nations, 2010 as The International Year of Biodiversity. It is a celebration of life on earth and of the value of biodiversity for our lives, but also a reminder that we are losing the earth's natural wealth at a rapid rate.

Explore tools available to municipal leaders and key stakeholders for promoting and sustaining biodiversity. From legislation to education, biodiversity can be integrated into all levels of planning.

AGENDA

Introduction—Charley Beresford

Biodiversity and Urban Environments— Dr. Valentin Schaefer

Edmonton's Ecological Network—Grant Pearsell

Leadership Stories—Briony Penn

Book launch and refreshments

REGISTRATION — \$25 (includes refreshments and a copy of *For the Love of Nature: Solutions to Restoring Biodiversity*, by Briony Penn and Robin J. Hood. To register go to civic-governance.ca or contact Sarah at salbertson@

PRESENTERS

DR. VALENTIN SCHAEFER—He is a founder and former Executive Director of the Institute of Urban Ecology at Douglas College in New Westminster, British Columbia, Canada where he was a faculty member in Biology for 26 years.

Val is a leading proponent of urban ecology and urban biodiversity who has written extensively and presented internationally on these topics.

He is also an environmental educator who has conducted numerous community projects with his students promoting nature in the city.

Val is the lead author of *Urban Biodiversity: Exploring Natural Habitat and Its Value in Cities* (Captus Books, 2004).

GRANT PEARSELL—Director of Office of Natural Areas, City of Edmonton. His background is in land use planning specializing in ecology and land conservation. Some of Grant's recent work includes participating on the Alberta Water Council's Provincial Wetland Policy Project Team; project manager for the creation of the Edmonton and Area Land Trust; Chair of the Alberta Land Trust Alliance; and team leader for the City of Edmonton's Natural Connections Conservation Plan.

BRIONY PENN—is a leading BC environmental activist, award-winning writer and adjunct professor in the School of Environmental Studies and Restoration of Natural Systems Program at the University of Victoria. Briony is the co-founder of The Land Conservancy of BC (TLC), an organization that has won numerous awards for its pioneering work to establish models of land use that integrates cultural and ecological values. She has also worked extensively with the Raincoast Conservation Foundation, which has established an international reputation for combining research and advocacy for the temperate rainforest. Briony is currently heading up the establishment of Living Carbon; Canada's first non-profit conservation offset valuation service.



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